

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL AVIATION SYSTEM PLAN POLICY COMMITTEE

Maricopa Association of Governments Office
302 North 1st Avenue, Ste. 200, Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

April 1, 2002

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Elaine Scruggs, Chair, Glendale
Councilmember Donna Wallace, Chandler
Councilmember Dave Crozier, Gilbert
Councilmember Ken Porter
Mayor Keno Hawker, Mesa
Councilmember George Zraket, Scottsdale
*Vice Mayor Thomas Allen, Surprise
Councilmember Hugh Hallman for Mayor Neil
Giuliano, Tempe

Mayor Lon McDermott, Wickenburg
*Supervisor Fulton Brock, Maricopa County
Councilmember Peggy Bilsten, City of Phoenix
Gary Adams, Arizona Department of
Transportation
Richard Dykas, Federal Aviation Administration
Lt. Colonel Ken Klesner, Arizona Air National
Guard
Colonel Dennis A. Ray, Luke Air Force Base

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Greg Chenoweth, Chandler
Amy Duffy, Glendale
Mark Ripley, Glendale
Steven Methvin, Glendale
Jerene Watson, Goodyear
William Gillies, Luke AFB
Kelly McMullen, McDOT
David Krietor, Phoenix
Marcia Wallace, Phoenix
Sue Palmeri, Phoenix
Mario Paniagua, Phoenix
Scott Gray, Scottsdale

Miryam Gutier, Surprise
Councilmember David Lane, Wickenburg
Lynn Kusy, Williams Gateway Airport
Oddvar Tveit, Tempe
Shannon Wilhelmenson, Tempe
Amber Wakeman, Tempe
Gus Nezer, Federal Aviation Administration
Pam Keidel, Wilbur Smith
Andrew Herman, Wilbur Smith
Randall Weidemann, Consultant
Harry Wolfe, MAG

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:38 a.m. by Chairman Elaine Scruggs

2. Review of Minutes of November 28, 2002

It was moved by Mayor Keno Hawker, seconded by Councilmember Hugh Hallman and unanimously recommended to approve the meeting minutes of November 28, 2002.

3. Review of MAG RASP Update Draft Working Paper 3- Demand/Capacity Analysis

Harry Wolfe asked Pam Keidel to provide an overview of Working Paper #3, Demand/Capacity Analysis. Ms. Keidel gave a Power Point presentation touching on the major components of the working paper.

Pam Keidel provided an overview of the MAG RASP process and what stage of the process we had reached. She noted that the forecasts had been approved in November 2001, and a demand/capacity analysis had been prepared based on those forecasts. Ms. Keidel stated that Annual Service Volume is an accepted FAA methodology for estimating the annual delay at an airport for long-range planning purposes.

Pam Keidel noted that by 2025 seven of the region's airports would exceed capacity and the region overall would be at 83-87% capacity. She also mentioned which airports did not meet FAA standards for their design classifications.

Mayor Elaine Scruggs asked if some of the small technical details in the report, such as erroneous ASV figures had been corrected. Pam Keidel responded that they had been conducted.

Councilmember Hallman questioned the usefulness of the Annual Service Volume figures since an airport, such as Scottsdale, can exceed its Annual Service Volume. Pam Keidel responded that ASV provided a basic guide against which to compare demand to determine whether any capacity deficiencies existed.

Councilmember Hallman pointed out that at the meeting of the technical staff, Tempe had recommended using hourly capacity.

Councilmember David Crozier indicated that the 90,000 operations figure for Buckeye airport seemed high. Harry Wolfe said that he received an estimate of the traffic from the flight school at Goodyear that does a substantial amount of training at Buckeye daily.

Mayor Elaine Scruggs raised the issue of the high delays shown at Buckeye. Pam Keidel responded that the delay figures are derived from the FAA Advisory Circular after dividing the demand by the capacity.

Mayor Elaine Scruggs raised concerns about a paragraph on page 3.27 in the report that suggested that Luke Air Force Base was taking Phoenix's airspace. Colonel Dennis Ray added that that since the 1970s and 1980s, Luke had actually lost a substantial amount of airspace and could not afford to lose any more airspace without impairing its mission. He cited a reduction of low level routes between the 70s and 80s and 2000 from 26 to 9; and the reduction of unrestricted training areas from 10 to 3.

Councilmember Hugh Hallman emphasized that Tempe had withdrawn its comments pertaining to Luke Air Force Base from its letter of March 22, 2002. He said the Tempe supports the mission of Luke and doesn't want to do anything that would impair it.

Councilmember David Crozier said that he and a group of elected officials had met with Senator John McCain last week, and that the Senator had indicated that Luke was a potential base closure candidate for 2005. Mayor Scruggs pointed out that an effort is being organized to have a plan in place to avoid Luke's closure.

Councilmember Hallman requested written responses as needed to the comments in the letter of March 22, 2002 from Tempe's attorney regarding Annual Service Volumes and airport capacity.

4. Review of MAG RASP Update Outline of Working Paper #4, Alternatives

Andrew Herman from Wilbur Smith Associates discussed the outline of proposed alternatives for the MAG RASP Update. The general alternative concepts discussed were the: "Do Nothing", "Maximize Existing Airports," "Enhance Technology" and "Build New Airports."

Councilmember Hugh Hallman expressed concern with the formation of alternatives. He said the alternatives wavered between being generalized concepts and very specific recommendations. He indicated a variety of options should be examined for increasing commercial service capacity including not only adding a fourth runway at Sky Harbor, but also building a new airport.

Councilmember Hallman asked what environmental factors would be considered in the evaluation of the alternatives. Pam Keidel responded that the key items examined would be noise and air quality. She said that the consultant would not be preparing new noise contours for the MAG airports, but rather be drawing upon existing available noise contours for their analysis. Ms. Keidel added that the MAG air quality model would be run to assess those impacts.

Colonel Dennis A. Ray requested that the impact of airport alternatives on the mission of Luke Air Force Base be taken into account as a separate evaluation criterion. He noted that Luke had made efforts over the years to change its operational procedures because of airspace changes, airport development and urban development. He said that Luke had reached the point where it couldn't continue to make changes without impairing its mission. Colonel Ray stated that Luke had to move its training from the East side to the West side of the White Tanks because of urban development and was concerned about further urban development impacting Luke's mission.

It was moved by Mayor Elaine Scruggs, seconded by Councilmember Ken Porter to add an evaluation criterion to the MAG RASP Update that addressed compatibility with the mission of Luke Air Force Base.

Mayor Keno Hawker asked whether the motion only applies to airport development or to all urban development. He asked whether the motion would imply that State Route 85 couldn't be widened because it would attract development. Mayor Hawker expressed concern with supporting a motion that was so broad in scope that it eliminated future urban development.

Colonel Ray said that the motion only applies to the impact of new airport development and/or new

technology on the mission of Luke Air Force Base.

The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 11-0 with the FAA abstaining.

5. Legislative Issues

Harry Wolfe reported that Governor Jane D. Hull issued an Executive Order 2002-3 earlier this year which established a Governor's Aviation Advisory Council. He said that the purpose of the Council, in part, was to improve coordination among government agencies in aviation matters.

Harry Wolfe indicated that his two main concerns with the Council is that it would lead to duplication of effort, or that its work would conflict with MAG aviation system planning effort. Mr. Wolfe added that ADOT would be providing staff for the Council.

Councilmember Hugh Hallman took issue with the summary of aviation bills that was provided in the agenda packet. He asked where the summaries had been obtained. Harry Wolfe responded that he had received a copy through the Arizona Airports Association. Councilmember Hallman said that the summary reflected a Phoenix bias and requested that it be stricken from the agenda packet. Chairman Scruggs directed MAG staff to remove the summary.

6. Public Meeting on the MAG RASP Update

Harry Wolfe reported that a public meeting had been scheduled for Wednesday, April 3, 2002 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the MAG offices to obtain input on the MAG RASP Update. He indicated that in order to encourage attendance he made a substantial amount of telephone calls urging representatives of different groups to come forward and to express their views. He urged members of the Policy Committee and technical staff to attend the public meeting.